

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2816
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 4593

LIMDIS

PARIS FOR EMBASSY AND OECD. BRUSSELS FOR EMBASSY AND USEC

E.O. 11652: GDS

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH FORMIN BULA: ECONOMIC SITUATION
AND RAW MATERIALS

1. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BULA EARLY
HOURS JUNE 1 OF KIDNAPPING AND ANGOLA, I ROSE
TO LEAVE. AT THAT POINT BULA SAID, "WE STILL HAVE NOT
DISCUSSED WHAT YOU DID WHILE YOU WERE IN WASHINGTON." DEPT
WILL RECALL THAT HE HAD HAD THREE OTHER OCCASIONS TO GO
INTO THIS AND ON OTHER OCCASIONS I HAD SUGGESTED IT MIGHT
BE INTERESTING. WHY IT OCCURRED TO HIM EARLY SUNDAY MORNING,
I DON'T KNOW, BUT DISCUSS IT WE DID.

2. I TOLD HIM I HAD TRIED TO DO TWO THINGS IN WASHINGTON:
(1) DETERMINE IF MY GOVERNMENT WERE WILLING TO PROVIDE THE
KIND OF FINANCIAL HELP HE HAD SUGGESTED WOULD BE NEEDED IN
OUR FINAL CONVERSATION BEFORE MY DEPARTURE AND (2) PUSH
AS BEST I COULD FOR A US EFFORT TO TAKE RAW MATERIAL
PROBLEMS SERIOUSLY, PARTICULARLY COPPER.

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3. ON FIRST POINT, I HAD FOUND US GOVERNMENT FAR

BETTER DISPOSED TO HELP THAN I WOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED
AND I WAS VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT WERE THE GOZ TO WORK OUT
AN AGREED ECONOMIC PROGRAM WITH THE IMF, THERE WOULD BE
A US CONTRIBUTION TO HELP ZAIRE WITH ITS BALANCE OF
PAYMENTS PROBLEM. HE WAS DEFINITELY INTERESTED AND HE
ASKED NUMEROUS QUESTIONS CONCERNING WHAT WOULD BE IN
IMF PACKAGE, INCLUDING QUESTIONS ABOUT DELICATE EXCHANGE
RATE QUESTION. I TOLD HIM DINI, IN REPLY TO MY DIRECT
QUESTION, HAD SAID DEVALUATION NEED NOT BE PART OF AGREED
PUBLICIZED PACKAGE. I ADDED MY OWN PERSONAL VIEW THAT LONG-RUN
RECOVERY OF ZAIRIAN ECONOMY, PARTICULARLY CRUCIAL
AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, WOULD EVENTUALLY REQUIRE ACTION ON
EXCHANGE RATE.

4. RE COPPER, I SAID I HAD FOUND US IN MIDST OF POLICY
REVIEW FOLLOWING ADJOURNMENT OF PARIS ENERGY PREP-CON
TALKS AND MOVING IN DIRECTION OF NEW PLICY. AS HE KNEW,
SECRETQRY KISSINGER HAD NOW UNVEILED THAT POLICY AT PARIS
IN TWO IMPORTANT SPEECHES AND I TRUSTED THAT BULA WOULD
GRASP ESSENTIAL POINTS: THAT COOPERATION WAS BETTER THAN
CONFRONTATION AND THAT DOOR WAS OPENING FOR SERIOUS
DISCUSSIONS OF KEY COMMODITIES. HE SAID HE HAD NOTED
SECRETARY'S POLICY SWITCH ANDIT HAD STRENGTHENED HIS
ADMIRATION FOR THE SECRETARY'S ABILITIES.
HINTON

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